



Religious Education Newsletter for Parents

Autumn Term 2019

Dear Parents,

Please find below the information regarding our RE themes for the Autumn Term. Each class will explore these themes through different topics. We have included suggestions of ways you can support your child's RE learning at home.

Many thanks for your support.



**DOMESTIC CHURCH - FAMILY**



**Reception : MYSELF** -God knows and loves each one of us

**Y1: FAMILIES** - God's love and care for every family

**Y2: BEGINNINGS** - God is present in every beginning

**Y3: HOMES** - God's vision for every family

**Y4: PEOPLE** - The family of God in Scripture

**Y5: OURSELVES** - We are created in the image of God

**Y6: LOVING** - God who never stops loving

**At home:** talk together about your family. Make a family tree or collage using photographs of family members—grandparents, parents, children, aunts, uncles etc. Share stories and memories of how the members of the family show love. Pray together for members of your family by name. Maybe you could make a thank you prayer to God together for the love received and given in your family.

**Special times this term**

- 8<sup>th</sup> September: Our Lady's Birthday
- October: the Month of the Rosary
- 1<sup>st</sup> October: St. Therese of Lisieux\*
- 4<sup>th</sup> October: CAFOD Harvest Fast Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> October: St Francis of Assisi
- November: Month of the Holy Souls
- 1<sup>st</sup> November: All Saints
- 2<sup>nd</sup> November: All Souls
- 10<sup>th</sup> November: Remembrance Sunday
- 24<sup>th</sup> November: Christ the King
- 30<sup>th</sup> November: St Andrew, patron of Scotland
- 1<sup>st</sup> December: First Sunday of Advent
- 8<sup>th</sup> December: Immaculate Conception
- 25<sup>th</sup> December: Christmas Day
- 26<sup>th</sup> December: St Stephen's Day \*

*\* School House saint*

**BAPTISM AND CONFIRMATION - BELONGING**

**Reception: WELCOME** -Baptism: a welcome to God's family

**Y1: BELONGING** - Baptism: an invitation to belong to God's family

**Y2: SIGNS AND SYMBOLS** - Signs and symbols in Baptism

**Y3: PROMISES** - Promises made at Baptism

**Y4: CALLED** - Confirmation: a call to witness

**Y5: LIFE CHOICES** - Marriage, commitment and service

**Y6: VOCATION AND COMMITMENT** - The vocations of priesthood and religious life

**At home:** look at photographs of family celebrations together including Baptisms and weddings. Talk about why special events and Sacraments are important in our lives.



**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS - LOVING**

*Rejoice!*



**Reception: BIRTHDAY** -Looking forward to Jesus's birthday

**Y1: WAITING** - Advent: a time to look forward to Christmas

**Y2: PREPARATIONS** - Advent: preparing to celebrate Christmas

**Y3: VISITORS** - going to see Jesus

**Y4: GIFT** - God's gift of love and friendship in Jesus

**Y5: HOPE** - Advent: waiting in the joyful hope for Jesus

**Y6: EXPECTATIONS** - Jesus born to show God to the world

**At home:** Discuss with the children how your family welcomes visitors to your home. Use the CAFOD or Missio websites to get a religious Advent calendar to use at home. Make a Birthday card for Jesus which you can then leave at the crib at church.



## **Study of a Major World Religion: Year 1 – Year 6**

At St. Elizabeth's we have a focus on one major world religion other than Christianity each year. In our teaching we focus on how people of another faith live and worship today and we include visits to places of worship and opportunities for the children to raise and explore questions. Last year we had a whole school focus on Judaism. The children were visited by guest speakers and a number of classes visited the Richmond Synagogue.

### **Other Faiths –Islam Year 1 to Year 6**

During the Autumn Term, your child(ren) will be learning about the Islam – how Muslims live and worship today, including a visit for Y5 to the Morden Mosque.

### **November- Month of Remembrance**

During November, in our assemblies, we pray for members of our families who have died. Children are invited to bring in a photograph of a family member who has died to place on our 'Friends in Heaven' table. These photographs will be returned at the end of November.

<sup>1</sup> *Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools and Colleges in England and Wales published by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales Department of Catholic Education and Formation in 2012.*